

House File 541 - Introduced

HOUSE FILE 541

BY COMMITTEE ON ENVIRONMENTAL
PROTECTION

(SUCCESSOR TO HSB 163)

A BILL FOR

1 An Act relating to dam reconstruction standards.

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. Section 455B.275, Code 2013, is amended by adding
2 the following new subsection:

3 NEW SUBSECTION. 3A. Notwithstanding design criteria and
4 guidelines for Iowa dams adopted by the department, all of the
5 following standards shall apply to a person reconstructing a
6 dam that was damaged due to a natural disaster who files an
7 application under subsection 3:

8 a. The person reconstructing the dam is only required to
9 possess the flooding easements or ownership which were held
10 prior to the reconstruction as long as the former normal
11 pool elevation is not exceeded and the spillway capacity is
12 increased by at least fifty percent.

13 b. Flooding easements or ownership are only required to the
14 top of the reconstructed spillway elevation.

15 EXPLANATION

16 This bill relates to dam reconstruction standards.

17 The bill provides that, notwithstanding design criteria and
18 guidelines for Iowa dams adopted by the department of natural
19 resources, certain standards apply to the reconstruction
20 of a dam damaged due to a natural disaster. The standards
21 include that the person reconstructing the dam is only required
22 to possess flooding easements or ownership which were held
23 prior to the reconstruction as long as the former normal
24 pool elevation is not exceeded and the spillway capacity is
25 increased by at least 50 percent; and the flooding easements
26 or ownership are only required to the top of the reconstructed
27 spillway elevation.